Metropolitan Transit System

IMPORTANT NOTICE

June 4, 2014

To: ALL PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND PERSONNEL

Subject: REVISIONS TO SDMTS "PERSONS WITH MEDICAL DISABILITIES APPLICATION FOR REDUCED FARE (LONG FORM)"

The San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) has made significant revisions to its Senior/Disabled/ Medicare (SDM) *Persons with Medical Disabilities Application for Reduced Fare (Long Form).* The SDM Long Form Program was launched in 2011. Since that time, in response to suggestions/feedback from certifying health care professionals and independent consultants, MTS has worked to improve its processes to ensure that those who qualify for the program receive the benefit of a reduced transit-fare pass. MTS has seen a need to clarify its policies and procedures in relation to who can fill out the Long Form and who actually qualifies for a reduced fare. Additionally, formatting changes to the Long Form have been made as well**.** MTS hopes that these revisions will help health care professionals in determining which patients qualify under the SDM Program. **Previous versions of the Long Form will only be accepted for 1 month after the date of this memo.**

Please Note the Following Clarifications for Qualifying Professionals:

- To qualify a person for an SDM reduced-fare pass, applicants **MUST HAVE BOTH** of the following:

  (1) a qualifying disability (see page 4 of 6 of the MTS Long Form); **AND**

  (2) the qualifying disability(ies) **MUST** inhibit the applicant's ability to effectively use mass transportation services or a mass transportation facility without special facilities, planning, or design.

  It is very important to note that **APPLICANTS MUST HAVE BOTH COMPONENTS** noted above to qualify for an SDM reduced-fare pass.

- **ONLY** qualified professionals (as listed on page 3 of 6 of the Long Form) can fill out the Physician's Statement of Medical Disability Eligibility. If **ANY** part of page 3 is filled out by anyone other than the qualified professional, the application will be denied and returned to the applicant. The Long Form is no longer fillable electronically; however, it is acceptable to use a physician's address stamp (showing name, license number, and contact information).

- Previous categories for "Disabled Veterans" and "Other Disability" have been **REMOVED** as they fall under other existing categories.

- Due to the high volume of applications received by MTS daily, the turnaround time is now **15 Days** (contingent upon confirmation of verifying the disability).

PLEASE REPLACE ANY PREVIOUS VERSIONS OF THE MTS SDM LONG FORM WITH THE REVISED VERSION ATTACHED. THIS FORM IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON MTS's WEB SITE AT: http://www.SDMTS.com/fares_discounted.asp.

Enclosures: MTS SDM Long Form (English and Spanish) - Revised 6/2014